

Food Processing Industries in Tripura

***353. SHRI KHAGEN DAS:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Tripura have submitted a project for modernisation of the existing food processing factory belonging to Tripura Small Industries Corporation Ltd.; and

(b) if so, what is the present position with respect to giving financial assistance for modernisation of the factory?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tripura had submitted a proposal on 26.4.2000 seeking financial assistance for modernization of fruit processing unit run by Tripura Small Scale Industries Corporation. The total project cost indicated was Rs. 97 lakhs and an assistance of Rs. 50 lakhs was sought from Department of Food Processing Industries. For such projects, under Plan Schemes of the Department, 50% of the cost of capital equipment and technical civil works up to Rs. 25 lakhs in general areas and up to Rs. 50 lakhs in difficult areas is admissible as grant. The State Government was informed on 6.5.2000 that in accordance with pattern of assistance, the financial assistance admissible will be Rs. 30 lakhs. The State Government was asked to indicate how the balance amount of Rs. 67 lakhs would be arranged and also to furnish the details of technical civil works to process the proposal for financial assistance further. For want of response from the State Government, it has not been possible to take any decision on the State proposal.